



Pentagon Briefing

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➤ **The QDR establishes a new strategy for America's defense.**

- Embraces uncertainty and contends with surprise.
- Extends America's influence and preserves America's security.
- Transforms the force to quickly and decisively confront the threats of the 21st Century.

➤ **The world has changed, and America must prepare now for the new and different threats to our security at home and abroad.**

- While it's impossible to predict where or when we will be threatened, we can anticipate how:
 - Terrorist attacks on our citizens and communities;
 - Advanced conventional weapons to deny US access to distant bases or theaters of operation;
 - Missiles and other weapons of mass destruction to hold populations hostage to blackmail or intimidation.
- These threats are:
 - Increasing – to include special operations forces and weapons of mass destruction.
 - Evolving – nations are arming themselves with advanced technology systems and integrated capabilities clearly designed to counter current military capabilities.
 - Accelerating -- attacks will be faster and shorter because success will depend on achieving objectives before the U.S. or its allies can react.

➤ **We must transform U.S. forces, capabilities, and institutions to extend America's advantages well into the future.**

- The QDR charts a new course for a strong defense that is smarter, faster, and prepared to counter the asymmetrical threats to our security.
- Reshapes the military from a threat-based force to a capabilities-based force to better defend against non-traditional threats.
- Fields a force capable of defeating an adversary quickly and decisively, and makes uncertainty the centerpiece of U.S. defense planning.
- Offers a portfolio of U.S. military capabilities selected, developed, and sustained to help us prevail against current threats and dissuade potential adversaries from developing dangerous new capabilities.

➤ **The development and deployment of U.S. forces and capabilities will be founded on four key goals:**

- Assuring allies and friends of U.S. resolve and capability to fulfill its military commitments.
- Dissuading adversaries from undertaking programs or operations that threaten US interests or those of allies and friends.
- Deterring aggression and coercion by deploying forward the capabilities necessary to swiftly defeat attacks and impose severe penalties for aggression.
- Decisively defeating any adversary if deterrence fails.

➤ **The QDR provides a roadmap for the President and Congress to chart a new course for the transformation of America's military in the century ahead.**

- We consulted extensively with friends and allies about how to best move beyond the Cold War and prepare together for the threats we will all face in the century ahead.
- Within the Department of Defense, we initiated an unprecedented process of study and review to determine how our armed forces might best be arranged to meet the threats of the 21st Century.
- We produced a strategy guidance and are now in the process of testing it against a variety of models and scenarios.
- The plan we present to the President, the National Security Council, and the Congress will provide the roadmap necessary to chart a new course for the transformation of America's military in the century ahead.